

CAPITAL EXPERIENCES A BANNER HEALTH YEAR

Deaths Decrease, Births Increase and
Fewer Infants Die in First
Twelve Months.

Star's Clean-Up Campaigns Con-
tribute to Improvement—Mortuary
Rate Falls 17. to 16.55 Per 1,000.

Washington has just experienced its banner health year. An increase in births, a decrease in deaths and a general improvement in health conditions are shown in a report containing vital statistics for the past twelve months, issued by Dr. William C. Woodward, health officer of the District.

While many factors have contributed to the improved showing, officials of the health department believe that the awakened interest of Washingtonians in sanitary problems, influenced in large degree by the several clean-up campaigns inaugurated by The Star, had much to do with the improvement recorded last year.

Dr. Woodward's report is as follows: "The year just ended represents the high-water mark of healthfulness among the people of the District of Columbia. From the actual records of deaths from all causes and of reported cases of contagious diseases up to the morning of yesterday (December 31), and with an estimate of the deaths and cases of communicable diseases that might be expected to occur on that day, the following figures show the situation:

153 Fewer Deaths.

"The total number of deaths from all causes for the year is estimated at 5,853, which is 153 less than the number recorded in the preceding year.

"A comparison of the death rates for the two years shows a fall from 17.0 to 16.55. The improved conditions of health prevailed among both the white and the colored populations.

"Among the white population deaths numbered 3,485, a fall of eighty-three since the preceding year, and among the colored population deaths numbered 2,368, a fall of seventy. The white death rate was only 15.61, and the colored 24.26.

Increase of 224 Births.

"Notwithstanding the fact that the recorded births in the year just ended numbered 7,127, an increase of 224 as compared with the preceding year, there was an actual decrease in the number of deaths among infants under one year of age. In 1913 823 deaths of this class were recorded, while in 1914 there were but 717, the death rate falling from 120 to 101 per thousand recorded births.

"Some cases of disease and death were, of course, more active during the year just ended than during the preceding year; the number of recorded cases of whooping cough, for instance, rose from 319 to 537, while the number of deaths from this disease rose from sixteen to eighteen.

"Recorded cases of pellagra increased from four to twenty, and deaths from this disease increased from four to thirteen. There was an increase in the number of reported cases of smallpox from 140 to 150, but the usual mild type of this disease prevailed, and no deaths occurred either year.

Tuberculosis Decreases.

Cases of communicable forms of tuberculosis reported during the year just ended numbered 1,181, a decrease of 125 as compared with the preceding year, and deaths from this disease fell to 649, a decrease of 110.

"Cases of typhoid fever diminished from 461 to 340, and deaths diminished from 53 to 45.

"Scarlet fever cases showed a decrease from 556 to 310, and deaths dropped from 14 to 1.

"Measles, which prevailed in epidemic form in 1913, showed a marked decrease last year, reported cases falling from 5,713 to 947, and deaths from this disease falling from 24 to 1.

"While diphtheria was much less prevalent, reported cases falling from 530 to 452, it was of a severer type, the deaths increasing, notwithstanding the diminished prevalence of the disease, from 25 to 32.

Fewer Violent Deaths.

"Deaths by homicide increased from 26 to 29, while suicides diminished from 72 to 67, and deaths by accident from 229 to 214."

MISS SWEENEY BURIED.

Services at Her Late Home With Requiem High Mass at St. Aloysius.

The funeral of Miss Margaret Sweeney, who died suddenly Monday night, were held yesterday from her residence, 60 K street northwest. Requiem high mass was celebrated at St. Aloysius Church at 10 o'clock. Father Mulligan was celebrant, Rev. Father Owen Hill deacon and Father Scully subdeacon. In the sanctuary was Father McDonald, pastor of St. Aloysius Church; Father Pittar and Father Brooks.

The sermon was preached by Father Mulligan, taking as his subject "Christian Charity." A number of friends of the deceased were in attendance at the mass, and a committee of women from the government printing office, where Miss Sweeney was employed for more than forty years. Burial took place at Mt. Olivet cemetery.

Brazil Hopes for Peace in Europe.
RIO JANEIRO, January 1.—The Brazilian parliament, which held its final session yesterday, adopted a resolution expressing the hope that peace would speedily be re-established in Europe.

Paul West

will contribute a delightful tale of boy life,

Sewell Ford

will have a Torch story,

Postmaster General

Burleson

will discuss the latest advance in parcel post methods,

there will be another installment of "Adventures in News Getting,"

and an installment of

E. Phillips

Oppenheim's

great serial, "The Way of These Women,"

besides other good things, in the next

Sunday Magazine

of The

SUNDAY

STAR

NEARLY 600,000 WAR PRISONERS IN GERMANY

BERLIN, January 1, by wireless to London, 9:41 a.m.—The total number of prisoners of war held in Germany at the end of the year amounts to 5,138 officers and 577,875 men.

This is shown in a summary issued from headquarters today, which points

out that the list does not include civilians interned in Germany nor the prisoners taken during the pursuit in Russian Poland of those in transport.

Of the above total the French contribute 3,459 officers, including seven generals, and 215,905 men; the Russians, 3,575 officers, of whom eighteen are generals, and 306,250 men; the Belgians, 612 officers, including three generals, and 36,852 men, and the British 492 officers and 18,828 men.

Headquarters takes occasion to say that the report that 1,140 German officers and 134,700 men are prisoners of war in Russia is misleading, since this list includes interned civilians. Probably not

more than 15 per cent of the total are military prisoners, it is declared.

COMPLETE NO DEAL.

Bresnahan and Herrmann Confer Over Certain Players.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, December 30.—Roger Bresnahan, manager of the Chicago National League team, arrived here yesterday and arranged for a conference with August Herrmann, president of the Cincinnati National League club, to discuss a trade or purchase of

players. Before seeing Herrmann Bresnahan met Charles P. Taft, owner of the majority stock of the Chicago club.

It was expected that Charles Herzog, manager of the Cincinnati team, would also arrive in this city and take part in the conference between Bresnahan and Herrmann, but a telegram was received by the latter saying Herzog had stopped off at Philadelphia.

Following a conference with Manager Bresnahan President Herrmann of the Cincinnati team said that no deals had been closed, but that Bresnahan would hold a meeting later with Manager Herzog of the local team.

"I do not think that we can make a

deal with Bresnahan," said Herrmann. "We cannot give him Heinie Groh, and he does not appear to want to discuss any deal that will not include Groh. I am impressed upon him that we could not let Groh go."

Russell to Talk on Persia.

Charles W. Russell, who has just returned to Washington by way of the war zone after five years as minister to Persia, is to tell about that country and his observations on the homeland journey at the University Club tomorrow night at 9 o'clock.

GERMANS DEFY ENEMIES AS NEW YEAR BEGINS

LONDON, January 1.—The following official communication from Berlin has been received here by wireless: "Since the war began and up till the end of the year we still stand firm on the old German watch, waiting what the future has in store for us."

"We are still united. No enemy can force us, in spite of rage and hypocrisy. In the east as well as the west may victory ever attend you. Germany over all!"

"The whole world learns what we can do when we are attacked and that German pluck rings throughout the world."

"Main headquarters reports tonight (Thursday) that our troops fighting in Poland have made over 35,000 prisoners in the region of Lodz and Lowicz, and besides, have taken many guns."

"The total number of prisoners taken since the 11th of November amounts to 136,000. Over 100 guns and 200 machine guns also have been captured."

Start the New Year "Right" and Profitably by Attending Washington's Greatest Suit and Overcoat Sale

START the New Year "Right"—
make your first business act a visit
to P-B's Annual Mid-Winter Clearance Sale.

Here are thousands of P-B hand-tailored quality Suits and Overcoats for you to select from—the prices are reduced and your purchase is backed by the P-B guarantee of absolute satisfaction.

This event has held the confidence of men for a quarter of a century and merits your attendance—this store holds two, and only two, sales each year.

Every P-B Winter Suit or Overcoat price is reduced, genuinely and generously. It is the P-B policy to allow the original price tickets to remain on all garments.

(Note)—The following reductions include young men's Suits and Overcoats.

All \$15 Suits and \$10.75
Overcoats now ...

All \$18 Suits and \$13.25
Overcoats now ...

All \$20 Suits and \$14.25
Overcoats now ...

All \$25 Suits and \$18.75
Overcoats now ...

All \$30 Suits and \$21.75
Overcoats now ...

All \$35 Suits and \$25.50
Overcoats now ...

All \$40 Suits and \$31.25
Overcoats now ...

All \$45 Suits and \$35.50
Overcoats now ...

Full Dress, Tuxedos, and Prince Alberts are not included in this sale.

\$3 and \$4 Derbies
In This Sale ... \$1.85

These are manufacturers' samples, perfect hats guaranteed in every way. It is the year's greatest "Derby" sale event.

Special Sale of
Soft Hats at \$1.35

Sale of \$5 and \$6
Velour Hats

Special At ... \$3.50

Fur Caps 1/4 Opera Hats 1/3
Reduced Reduced

Leather Goods Reduced 1/4

Washington's Shirt Sale
\$1, \$1.25, \$1.50, \$1.75 and \$2

Shirts in This Sale—Special
79c (4) Four for \$3.00

Men look for this sale; past experience has proven to them that they can buy perfect shirts at this low sale price.

Every (winter) white and colored negligee shirt must make way for the P-B spring stock. No exceptions.

You can buy our "regular stock" shirts in plain and plaided fronts. New patterns, no seconds. Clean, fresh stocks.

A word to the wise, "come early tomorrow. Get first choice of patterns and sizes."

Manhattan Shirts not in this sale.

Mid-Winter Clearance
in the P-B Boys' Shop

Men have no monopoly at P-B's mid-winter clearance, mothers come in for their share of good values in the Boys' Shop. You mothers will profit by reading these values, today and, more so, by seeing them tomorrow.

Broken Lots Boys' Suits and Overcoats—the Reductions

\$6.00 values . \$4.00	\$12.50 values \$8.34
\$7.50 values . \$5.00	\$15.00 values \$10.00
\$8.50 values . \$5.66	\$16.50 values \$11.00
\$10.00 values . \$6.66	\$18.00 values \$12.00

\$5 and \$6 Suits for boys, reduced in this sale to... \$3.75

Boys' Furnishings Reduced—All Children's Hats reduced... 1/4

400 Boys' and Men's Caps, worth to \$1.50. Special at... 89c

\$5.00 Shoes
Clearance price,
\$3.95

Clearance prices now in effect on \$5 Tecks—all Russet and Gun-Metal leathers in the very newest style models.

Teck Shoes rank first with well-groomed men, and this clearance will be the first thought with wise buyers tomorrow morning.

Parker Bridget & Co.

P-B & Co. holds two and only two sales each year

THE AVENUE AT NINTH

The P-B guarantee of absolute satisfaction is in force always